

## Message Text

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12

ORIGIN AF-02

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-02 PCH-06 /011 R

66664

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APPROVED BY: AF/ RA - PETER C. WALKER

IO/ UNP- MR. DWORKIN

----- 126247

R 060310 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BATHURST

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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DAKAR ALSO POUCH BATHURST

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO ACCRA ADDIS ABABA

DAR ES SALAAM LAGOS LUSAKA USUN NEW YORK FROM GENEVA

04 APR 73

QUOTE UNCLASSIFIED GENEVA 1514

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SOCI, ECOSOC

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ( HRC ) - DRAFT CONVENTION ON

CRIME OF APARTHEID

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REF: ( A) GENEVA 1466 ( REPEATED AFRICAN INFO POSTS)  
( B) STATE 061433

1. AS INDICATED REF ( A), TEXT OF DRAFT CONVENTION  
ON SUPPRESSION AND PUNISHMENT OF CRIME OF APARTHEID  
AS REVISED BY HRC WORKING GROUP ESSENTIALLY THE SAME  
AS TEXT SUBMITTED BY GUINEA, NIGERIA AND USSR AT 27 TH GA.  
REVISED TEXT ADDS DECLARATION IN FIRST ARTICLE THAT  
" APARTHEID IS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY". ALSO, AS  
NOTED REF ( A), WORKING GROUP LEFT UNRESOLVED ARTICLES  
ON IMPLEMENTATION. UNDER ORIGINAL THREE- POWER DRAFT  
( ARTS. VI, VII AND VIII) IMPLEMENTATION WOULD BE  
THROUGH REPORTING SYSTEM UNDER SUPERVISION OF COMMISSION  
ON HUMAN RIGHTS. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST IS THAT  
DEFINITION OF " CRIME OF APARTHEID" IN REVISED DRAFT  
REMAINS OF SAME SWEEPING GENERALITY AND AMBIGUITY AS IN  
THREE- POWER DRAFT.

2. REVISED DRAFT STILL INCLUDES EXPRESS PROVISION  
ATTACHING INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY TO ALL  
INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF STATES,  
WHENEVER THEY COMMIT, PARTICIPATE IN, DIRECTLY INCITE OR  
CONSPIRE IN THE COMMISSION OF ANY ACT LISTED UNDER THE  
CONVENTION'S DEFINITION OF CRIME OF APARTHEID. THE  
CONVENTION WOULD ESTABLISH JURISDICTION OF COMPETENT  
TRIBUNAL OF ANY STATE PARTY TO CONVENTION TO TRY ANY  
PERSONS CHARGED WITH SUCH ACTS WHO MAY COME WITHIN  
JURISDICTION OF THE STATE PARTY.

3. DRAFT RESOLUTION ( CO- SPONSORED BY BULGARIA, BYELORUSSIA,  
CHILE, INDIA, MAURITIUS, NIGERIA, PHILIPPINES, RUMANIA,  
SENEGAL, USSR, TANZANIA AND ZAIRE ), ON WHICH VOTE REPORTED  
REF ( A) WAS TAKEN, STATES ( A) APPROVAL BY HRC OF THE  
PREAMBLE PART AND ARTICLES ( EXCLUDING THOSE ON  
IMPLEMENTATION ) ON THE DRAFT CONVENTION AS REPORTED BY  
WORKING GROUP AND ( B) RECOMMENDS ECOSOC ADOPT RESOLUTION  
APPROVING DRAFT CONVENTION AND RECOMMENDING TO GA  
AT ITS 28 TH SESSION TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE DRAFT  
CONVENTION.

4. THERE WAS NO DEBATE ON SUBSTANCE OF DRAFT CONVENTION  
BEFORE VOTE REPORTED REF ( A) SINCE SUBSTANTIVE DEBATE  
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TOOK PLACE DURING SECOND WEEK OF SESSION PRIOR TO

ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUP ON MARCH 8. DURING EARLIER DEBATE STRONG SUPPORT FOR DRAFT CONVENTION WAS EXPRESSED BY USSR, SENEGAL, ZAIRE, CHILE, PHILIPPINES, INDIA AND EGYPT, WITH IRAN AND TURKEY ALSO SUPPORTING IN LESS ENTHUSIASTIC TERMS. AUSTRIA, ITALY AND NETHERLANDS EXPRESSED DOUBTS MAINLY ON TECHNICAL LEGAL GROUNDS AND ECUADOR, WHILE SUPPORTING IDEA, QUESTIONED EFFECTIVENESS OF CONVENTION.

5. AT AM MEETING APRIL 2 EXPLANATION OF VOTE MADE BY USREP (HOFFMAN) WAS AS FOLLOWS:

" I DO NOT WISH TO LEAVE ANY DOUBT IN ANYONE' S MIND AS TO MY OWN-- MY DELEGATION' S-- MY GOVERNMENT' S-- ATTITUDE TOWARD APARTHEID. WE HATE AND DEPLORE IT IN EVERY FORM IT TAKES AND WOULD SPARE NO EFFORTS AND SUPPORT ANY AND ALL EFFECTIVE METHODS TO ELIMINATE IT. STATEMENTS, TOO NUMEROUS TO QUOTE IN THE APPROPRIATE TIME FOR AN 'EXPLANATION OF VOTE', MADE BY OUR PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE COULD BE ADDUCED TO THIS EFFECT.

" FOR VARIOUS AND SUNDRY REASONS WE BELIEVE THE PROPOSED CONVENTION WILL BE INEFFECTIVE. IN THE FIRST PLACE IT IS SUPERFLUOUS. WE ALREADY HAVE INTERNATIONAL LEGISLATION DIRECTED TO THIS PURPOSE-- AND IN THIS CONNECTION I NEED ONLY CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO ARTICLE 3 OF THE CONVENTION ON ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION. THIS IS AS SWEEPING AN INDICTMENT OF APARTHEID AS COULD BE IMAGINED.

" BUT EVEN IF THIS WERE NOT THE CASE, AS I INDICATED PREVIOUSLY, THE PROPOSED CONVENTION HAS TO BE INEFFECTIVE. MY NOTES SHOW THAT MANY INTERVENTIONS MADE BY THOSE WHO SUPPORTED THE DRAFT CONVENTION WHEN IT WAS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED PRIOR TO THE APPOINTMENT OF THE WORKING GROUP-- INCLUDING AFRICAN DELEGATIONS-- EXPRESSED SERIOUS DOUBTS ON THIS SUBJECT. THEY REFERRED TO THE INADEQUACY OF THE DEFINITION OF THE PROPOSED CRIME. MY NOTES INDICATE THAT I HEARD WORDS SUCH AS " AMBIGUITY", " IMPRECISE", " NON- JURIDICAL" IN THIS CONNECTION. REALLY LITTLE HAS BEEN DONE TO REMEDY THESE DEFECTS IN THE UNCLASSIFIED

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DRAFT NOW BEFORE US.

" IN ADDITION, THE FEASIBILITY OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OR ENFORCEMENT OF SUCH A CONVENTION IS OPEN TO SERIOUS DOUBT-- IF NOT RENDERED IMPOSSIBLE-- BY THE ABSENCE

OF A SYSTEM OF INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

" MR. CHAIRMAN, I HAVE HEARD THE PROPOSED CONVENTION DESCRIBED AS " ANOTHER LANDMARK" IN THE FIGHT AGAINST APARTHEID. FOR ALL THE REASONS I HAVE STATED, IT IS AN ILLUSORY LANDMARK. IT WILL PROVE TO BE JUST ONE EXTRA INSTRUMENT OF DISAPPOINTMENT FOR THE OPPRESSED BLACKS IN AFRICA. I DO NOT AGREE WITH THE DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVES OF CHILE AND INDIA TO THE EFFECT THAT THIS IS A STEP FORWARD.

" EVERYTIME THE UN OFFERS TO THE OPPRESSED PROMISES, HOPES, THAT IT CANNOT FULFILL-- IT EXACERBATES THE IMPATIENCE OF THE OPPRESSED AND HURTS THEM RATHER THAN HELPING THEM. EVERYTIME IT DOES THINGS LIKE THIS, IT FURTHER SHAKES THEIR FAITH IN THE UN.

" IT IS BECAUSE OF THIS PRIMARILY THAT MY DELEGATION CANNOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSED CONVENTION OR ENDORSE ITS SUBMISSION TO OTHER BODIES WITH ANY IMPLICATION THAT IT APPROVES IT." RIMESTAD UNQUOTE ROGERS

NOTE BY OC/ T: POUCHED KAMPALA, KHARTOUM, TRIPOLI.

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 APR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE063460  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** PETER C. WALKER  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730434/aaaahscu.tel  
**Line Count:** 195  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ORIGIN AF  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** thigpegh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 NOV 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26-Nov-2001 by averetam>; APPROVED <05-Feb-2002 by thigpegh>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971202  
**Subject:** HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ( HRC ) - DRAFT CONVENTION ON CRIME OF APARTHEID  
**TAGS:** SOCI, XA, ECOSOC  
**To:** ACCRA  
ADDIS ABABA  
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KHARTOUM

KHARTOUM  
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TRIPOLI  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005